Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 08492 021624Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PRS-01 INR-07 NSC-05
DODE-00 CIAE-00 EAE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
PA-01 USIE-00 /041 W
----------021628Z 038698 /43
O 021435Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 622
INFO CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
CINCPACREPHIL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 8492

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, SHUM, RP
SUBJECT: DOG-BITE CASES: MEDIA COVERAGE CONTINUES UNABATED

REF: MANILA 8390.

1. JUNE 2 LOCAL MEDIA CONTINUED TO HIGHLIGHT DOG-BITE CASES AT CLARK AB. DAILY EXPRESS, FRONTPAGING STORY ENTITLED QUOTE US OFFICIALS BACK GI IN DOG CASE UNQUOTE, REPORTED THAT CLARK AB AUTHORITIES HAD VIRTUALLY CLEARED SGT. GAINES IN NUGUID CASE AND THAT ISSUANCE OF DUTY CERTIFICATE WAS IMMINENT. CLARK SPOKESMAN WAS QUOTED AS TELLING THE PRESS THAT GAINES QUOTE WAS ONLY DOING WHAT WE ARE PAYING HIM TO DO UNQUOTE. EVENING EXPRESS HEADLINES SAME STORY (GAINES) AND ADDS THAT LIST OF ALL OTHER FILIPINO DOG-ATTACK VICTIMS IS CONTAINED IN REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED BY LOCAL FISCAL TO JUSTICE DEPT. TOMORROW.

2. EXPRESS COLUMNIST VALENCIA REPORTED THAT IN SECOND BITING THE DOG WAS ALSO ORDERED TO ATTACK, BUT QUOTE YOU CAN BET YOUR LIFE THIS WILL BE DENIED UNQUOTE. COLUMNIST PATANNE IN EXPRESS COMMENTS THAT QUOTE THE QUESTION OF US MILITARY PRESENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF NEGO-
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PAGE 02 MANILA 08492 021624Z

TIATIONS ON THE ENTIRE RP-US DEFENSE PACT AND THE FATE OF THE CARTER HUMAN RIGHTS CRUSADE MAY DEPEND ON HOW USAF AUTHORITIES AT CLARK FIELD HANDLE THE RECENT CASE OF A GUARD DOG WHICH TRIED TO CHEW UP A FILIPINO SCAVENGER UNQUOTE. PATANNE THEN PROCEEDED TO OFFER A PARODY OF CLARK'S PRE-LIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THE GAINES INCIDENT.

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3. COLUMNIST GRENADA IN TIMES JOURNAL STATES THAT JUST RESOLUTION OF CLARK BASE DOG CASE IS A QUOTE CRUCIAL TEST UNQUOTE FOR THE US EMBASSY. GUEVARA OF SAME PAPER NOTES SECOND BITING CASE AND ASSERTS QUOTE JIMMY CARTER SHOULD PREACH HUMAN RIGHTS TO HIS CANINE SOLDIERS. UNQUOTE COLUMNIST GOES ON TO MUSE THAT IN ORDER TO PROTECT ITS HUMAN RIGHTS, BASE OFFICIALS HAVE ISSUED THE DOG A DUTY CERTIFICATE.

4. COMMENT: BROAD RANGE AND SHARPNESS OF MEDIA CAMPAIGN CONTINUE UNABATED. CONTRARY TO SUGGESTION REFTEL THAT PRESS INTEREST MIGHT SOON WANE (WHICH I DID NOT SEE PRIOR TO TRANSMISSION), I BELIEVE MANILA MEDIA WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE A FIELD DAY WITH THIS ISSUE UNTIL WE ARE ABLE TO REASONABLY SATISFY GOP'S GENERAL CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PROBLEM.
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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